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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

INVESTIGATIONS OF INSECTS AFFECTING
MAN AND ANIMALS

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U. S. Department of Agriculture

Dear Doctor:

We understand that you have used sterile maggots in the treatment of suppurative wounds. Our laboratory in Washington receives numerous inquiries from those afflicted with osteomyelitis in various parts of the United States asking where the maggot treatment may be obtained. Occasionally the cases are chronic and the inquiries are from people almost destitute through long disability.

You might be interested to know that we have a list of about 800 surgeons in the United States and Canada who have used the maggot treatment. We are sometimes able to perform a service to persons who want the maggot treatment by referring them to the surgeons nearest to them who have used the method. On the other hand, we can aid surgeons and hospitals by advising them concerning entomological aspects of the maggot treatment and by supplying foundation stock for rearing maggots; also by acting as a sort of clearing house for information concerning this rapidly developing field. Our laboratory is prepared to give to technicians instructions on the culture of surgical maggots, and we welcome visits from those interested.

We have a list of 55 articles written on the subject of the use of maggots in osteomyelitis and other infected wounds. If you would care for a copy of this list we should be glad to send you one.

Our investigations in this field were undertaken with the hearty approval of Dr. Baer shortly after he announced his maggot method of treatment. The research is under the direction of Dr. William Robinson, who has already made a number of contributions to this subject. The objects are a study of methods of breeding sterile maggots and of how the healing effects are obtained. We are also much interested in the entomological problems encountered by the surgeon. If you have any inquiries to make on these subjects we should be glad to supply you with any information we have.

It would add to the value of our records, and we should greatly appreciate it, if you will answer the questions on the enclosed sheet and return it to us.

Yours very truly,

Principal Entomologist in Charge Division of Insects Affecting Man and Animals

Information concerning use of the maggot treatment—to be mailed to the Division of Insects Affecting Man and Animals, Bureau of Entomology, Washington, D. C.
1. For what diseases have you used the maggot treatment?
2. What is your opinion of this method of treatment?
3. Do you have any specific objection to this method?
4. How many cases have you treated in this way?
5. From what source did you obtain your maggots?
6. If requested, would you and your hospital consent to accept a charity patient?
Name
Address
Hospital